

REMARKS:

After entry of this response, claims 1 to 26 will be pending. Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 1, 16, and 26 are the independent claims. Entry of this response, reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Amendment

Claim 7 has been amended solely to correct a grammatical punctuation error. No change in the scope of the claim is intended or effected.

Claim Rejection

Claims 1 to 26 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Publication No. 2002/0106192 (Sako). Applicant traverses this rejection because Sako clearly does not anticipate the claimed invention.

Claim 1: This claim recites the following:

1. (Previously Presented) A method, including steps of encoding a media stream into a digital content format representing that media stream;  
encrypting a portion of that digital content, less than the entire digital content format representing that media stream, the portion of the digital content that is encrypted being required for presentation of the media stream;  
not encrypting a portion of that digital content, less than the entire digital content format representing that media stream, the portion of the digital content that is not encrypted being required for locating or seeking to a selected position in the media stream represented by the digital content;

wherein the encrypted version of that digital content is substantially un-changed in formatting parameters from an unencrypted version of that digital content.

Sako does not teach the foregoing features of claim 1, at least with respect to “not encrypting a portion of that digital content, less than the entire digital content format representing that media stream, the portion of the digital content that is not encrypted being required for locating or seeking to a selected position in the media stream represented by the digital content.”

Paragraph [0034] of Sako was cited as teaching this feature. That portion of Sako is reproduced below:

[0034] reading plain data from the record medium on which content data composed of data of a content for which an encrypting process has been performed and the plain data have been recorded, the plain data being placed at a position that allows the plain data to be read before the data of the content, at least information used for performing a decryption for the data of the content for which the encrypting process has been performed;

This text teaches plain data placed at a particular position. Paragraph [0035] indicates what is extracted from this plain data, namely “the information used for performing the decryption” taught by Sako. Thus, the plain data is not “required for locating or seeking to a selected position in the media stream represented by the digital content,” but rather is “used for performing the decryption” taught by Sako. This portion of Sako therefore does not teach claim 1’s feature of “not encrypting a portion of that digital content, less than the entire digital content format representing that media stream, the portion of the digital content that is not encrypted being required for locating or seeking to a selected position in the media stream represented by the digital content.”

The remainder of Sako also does not teach this feature of claim 1. In fact, Sako does not even appear to teach “locating or seeking to a selected position in the media stream represented by the digital content,” let alone unencrypted data needed for performing such a locating or seeking operation.

Claim 16: This claim recites the following:

16. (Original) Apparatus including  
an input port capable of being coupled to a communication link, the communication link being capable of carrying digital content, the digital content including at least some presentable information and at least some formatting information;  
a digital content decoder, the decoder being capable of identifying the presentable information in response to the formatting information;  
a digital content decryptor, the decryptor being capable of decrypting the presentable information in response to a key;  
wherein the decryptor is protected by a relatively-higher degree of security than the decoder.

Sako does not teach the foregoing features of claim 16, at least with respect to the digital content including at least some presentable information and at least some formatting information, with the presentable information protected (via the decryptor) by a relatively-higher degree of security than the formatting information (via the decoder).

In more detail, paragraphs [0054] and [0055] of Sako, which were recited in the rejection of claim 16, discusses “plain data portions A1, A2, . . . , and so forth and the encrypted data portions B1, B2, . . . , and so forth.” However, as discussed above with respect to claim 1 and as shown by paragraph [0035] of Sako, the plain data portions are used for performing the decryption performed by Sako. Thus, these plain data portions do not contain formatting information of the type recited by claim 16. The cited portions of Sako therefore do not teach claim 16’s feature of the

digital content including at least some presentable information and at least some formatting information, with the presentable information protected (via the decryptor) by a relatively-higher degree of security than the formatting information (via the decoder).

Nothing else in Sako is seen to remedy this deficiency of the cited portions of Sako.

Claim 26: This claim recites the following:

26. (Original) A method, including steps of  
encoding a media stream into a digital content format representing that media stream, that digital content format having a set of information nodes, those information nodes being disposed in at least a partial ordering;  
encrypting a portion of that digital content, the portion being encrypted less than the entire digital content format representing that media stream, the portion of the digital content that is encrypted being required for presentation of the media stream;  
wherein the unencrypted portion of that digital content is substantially closed in a direction under that partial ordering, whereby it is possible to decode the unencrypted portion of that digital content without having to decrypt it.

Sako does not even discuss information nodes and ordering of those nodes. Sako therefore cannot teach the foregoing features of claim 26, at least with respect to the feature of “digital content format having a set of information nodes, those information nodes being disposed in at least a partial ordering” and the feature that “the unencrypted portion of that digital content is substantially closed in a direction under that partial ordering.”

Conclusion: In view of the foregoing, claims 1, 16, and 26 are allowable over Sako., as are their dependent claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal are therefore respectfully requested of the § 102 rejection of all of the pending claims.

No Admission

Applicant's decision not to argue each of the dependent claims separately is not an admission that the subject matter of those claims is disclosed or suggested by the applied art.

Closing

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney can be reached at (614) 205-3241. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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